

**GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

November 3, 1959

**GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION CIRCULAR NO. 190**

**TO :** Heads of Federal Agencies

**SUBJECT:** Trading Stamps

**GSA Declassification/Release Instructions on File**

1. Purpose. This Circular informs Federal agencies of proper action to be taken in connection with trading stamps received from Government purchases pending establishment of a firm policy in respect thereto.
2. General. In an unpublished decision (B-128096, dated August 20, 1956) relating to trading stamps received in connection with purchases of electric service from a utility company, the Comptroller General of the United States has stated that trading stamps received for Government purchases "... may be regarded as in the nature of a discount, rebate, or reduction in the price paid ... and that it would appear to be in the best interest of the Government to redeem the stamps."
3. Policy. In view of the above decision, representatives of the General Services Administration are consulting with the General Accounting Office and trading stamp firms for the purpose of establishing a Government-wide policy for the handling of trading stamps. Pending establishment of such a Government-wide policy on this matter, Federal agencies should collect and hold such trading stamps as are received in connection with Government purchases.

Nothing in this Circular is intended to affect any existing programs for redemption of trading stamps in consonance with above cited decision of the Comptroller General.

4. Effective Date. The provisions of this Circular are effective immediately.

*Franklin Floete*

FRANKLIN FLOETE  
Administrator

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